

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Status of Claims:

No claims are currently being cancelled.

Claims 1 and 17 are currently being amended.

Claim 18 is currently being added.

This amendment and reply amends and adds claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claims remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

After amending and adding the claims as set forth above, claims 1-18 are now pending in this application.

Claim Rejections – Prior Art:

In the Office Action, claims 1, 2, 4 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,509,927 to Prater et al.; claims 3 and 5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Prater et al.; claims 6-9 and 11-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Prater et al. in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2005/0157174 to Kitamura et al.; claim 10 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Prater et al. in view of Kitamura et al. and further in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0077386 to Nagasawa; and claims 14-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Prater et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 7,098,949 to Stavely. These rejections are traversed with respect to the presently pending claims under rejection, for at least the reasons given below.

Presently pending independent claim 1 now recites, among other things:

wherein the first electronic zooming means is operated by a user clicking the operation key one or more times to display a picture of a scale factor which is near to a desired zoomed picture, and

wherein the second electronic zooming means is operated by a user continuously pushing the operation key to finely tune a zooming scale factor to smoothly and quickly display a picture with a desired scale factor.

Presently pending independent claim 17 has been amended in a similar manner.

Turning now to the cited art of record, Prater fails to disclose or suggest a wireless terminal with a camera. Prater further fails to disclose or suggest the successive combination of “step-by-step zooming by clicking” and “smooth zooming in small steps by continuous pushing” as shown in Figure 4 of the drawings, and as now explicitly recited in presently pending independent claims 1 and 17.

As mentioned in the Office Action, Prater discloses in (column 8, line 65 to column 9, line 5) that “Zooming in magnifies a region of the sensor array by repeating pixels and lines, while zooming out shrinks a region of the array by skipping pixels and lines. Zoom operations with magnification or shrink factors not equal to an integer require signal processing for interpolation or decimation, which is best done in the camera signal processor.”

In this paragraph, however, only two kinds of zoom operations are disclosed, but Prater does not teach or suggest the use of consecutive combination of two kinds of zoom operations. Prater’s disclosure is merely an optional zoom operation to be selected among available zoom operations. It should be emphasized that the Office Action does not mention succeeding sentences of the above-stated paragraph. That is, Prater further discloses in column 9, lines 5-7, that “However, simple zoom for integer magnification or shrink factors can be done in the address controller. FIG. 17 shows an address controller capable of the zoom function.” These sentences suggest that Prater intends to use such an integer zoom operation rather than a non-integer zoom operation.

Accordingly, Prater teaches away from the combination of different kind of zoom operations such as integer zoom and non-integer zoom, much less the combination of different key operations such as clicking and continuous pushing, as set forth in presently pending independent claims 1 and 17.

Kitamura et al. is cited to show a foldable terminal. The Office Action alleges that the “zooming means” is disclosed in paragraph [0054] of Kitamura et al.. However, the term “zoom” is not disclosed in that paragraph at all.

Although the Office Action does not mention this, Kitamura discloses in paragraph [0068] that “zoom in” and “zoom out” are performed by pressing an “up key 12a” and a “down key 12b” for a predetermined period of time, respectively (see FIG. 1B). However, Kitamura fails to teach or suggest the successive combination of different key operations such as clicking and continuous pushing, as set forth in the presently pending independent claims 1 and 17.

Nagasawa is cited against claim 10 by showing a magnet in one housing and a magnet sensor in the other. However, Nagasawa fails to cure the defects noted in Prater and Kitamura.

Stavely is cited to reject claims 14-16 in view of Prater. However, Stavely fails to cure the defects noted in Prater and Kitamura.

Accordingly, the presently pending claims under rejection are patentable over the cited art of record.

New Claim:

New claim 18 has been added to recite the invention from a slightly different perspective as compared to independent claims 1 and 17.

Conclusion:

Since all of the issues raised in the Office Action have been addressed in this Amendment and Reply, Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and an early indication of allowance is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check or credit card payment form being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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